

**Q:** #3: What is the purpose of improving I-75?

**A:** The purpose of the project is to:

1. Improve motorist safety.
2. Improve travel efficiency and roadway capacity in the I-75 corridor by upgrading the roadway, interchanges and bridges to modern standards;
3. Provide additional transportation improvements, including the use of electronic Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).

**Q:** #4: Why is I-75 so congested, particularly in Oakland County?

**A:** I-75 is a transcontinental highway stretching from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Miami, Fla. It is an extremely important component of the overall transportation system in Michigan and the United States. I-75 connects with 16 other freeways within Michigan alone.

When first building I-75, designers laid it out in a stair-step manner following property lines. This minimized impacts on developed land. The resulting “diagonal” routing of I-75 is why many Oakland County residents use it more for local trips than for regional travel. And, it is difficult for local roadways to provide relief to I-75 because they do not truly parallel the freeway. In addition to problems with its initial layout, population and job growth in Oakland County are creating a heavy traffic burden for I-75. The extensive growth in the county has been increasing dramatically during the past 20 years. Growth is expected to continue for the next 30 years.

As a result of these conditions, I-75, between M-59 and M-102 (8 Mile Road) operates between Levels of Service D (heavy congestion) to Level of Service F (extreme congestion) during peak travel periods. If no changes occur, gridlock will occur not only during peak hours but throughout the day by the year 2025.

